

SAPMS Board Meeting

January 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 pm via Google Meet.

MISSION

The Mission of St. Augustine Public Montessori School is to provide students with a learning culture grounded in Montessori philosophy and practice that inspires a love of learning and respect for self, others and the environment.

AGENDA

1) Roll Call

Board Members:

Jason Ferrante, President
Burt Froehlich, Treasurer
Andres Kerllenevich, Secretary
Tristan Alfant, Trustee

Others Present:

Diane Dodds
Rebekah Andreu
Amanda Garcia
Amy Collins
Angela Lindstrom
Beate Schroeder
Carla Maggi
Chris Stoll
Crystal Jones
EdnM McGinley
Endo Pascasio
Erika Forest-Martin
Faith Corley
Helene Natiello
Jaclyn Briand
Janet Myer
Jen Sacharow
Jennifer Heffinger
Jennifer Marshall
Justin Qualls
Kaloita Florez
Kate Alfieri
Lauren Ferrante
Leilani Pascasio
Libby McDowell

Matthew Martin
Morgan Lewis
Noelle Cassado
Shawn Lindstrom
Sheri Sanchez
Will Good

2) Review of Public Notice

Notice was posted on the school calendar, the school website, and via email at 1:22 pm on January 19, 2023.

3) Approval of Minutes

MOTION:

Made by: Andres Kerllenevich

Seconded by: Jason Ferrante

Motion: To approve the minutes for the November 17, 2022, December 6, 2022, December 15, 2022, January 17, 2023 board meetings which were emailed to the board by Andres Kerllenevich.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

4) Public comment on Agenda items -- NONE.

5) President's Report:

~ Review of district meeting

DISCUSSION: Jason reviewed state of the school after the last District meeting. The finance committee met with the District on January 10, 2023 and was informed by the District that the school had until January 17, 2023 to raise \$130,000 in order to not be shut down. On June 17, 2023 the school informed the District that it had raised \$171,000 in the preceding 5 days. The District agreed not to report to the state that the school is in a financial emergency. The finance committee will meet monthly with the District to review financial condition. Jason said that the District would like to see at least \$100,000 as a cash reserve.

~ Pre-board meeting Q&A meeting idea moving forward

DISCUSSION: Jason presented the idea of a pre-board meeting public Q&A session so that board meeting attendees can have a better understanding of the issues and items to be discussed at the board meeting. Jason will work on this.

~ Community meeting plan (the fun one!) with Admin and Friends and any updates on fundraisers

DISCUSSION: Diane mentioned the idea of having food trucks on Ballard Street during the community meetings (and maybe the school receiving a percentage). Lauren Ferrante said that Hippy Chicks ice cream would participate and popcorn was also suggested. Carnival games were also suggested.

6) Director's Report

DISCUSSION: Diane Dodds thanked everyone for the fundraising and observed how nice the Sarbez event was. Diane went over upcoming events. Diane went over enrollment numbers, dropped from 146 to 141 but there is a long waiting list to replenish the enrollment numbers. Diane answered a question about the lottery. Diane discussed coordination with the District and a new mental health awareness plan.

Diane discussed the new requirement for the District's new "Unresolved Student Welfare Complaint" procedure requirement. Diane will work on a draft procedure and contact the charter school association to see if there is a form procedure that we can incorporate into the handbook and present it to the board.

7) Committee Reports

~ Financial committee (liason: Burt): Monthly report, CAP

DISCUSSION: Burt Froehlich gave a report on the state of the financial committee and its new members. Burt reiterated his commitment to the board to be as transparent as possible. Burt welcomed parents to request (from him or from Diane) copies of financial committee minutes. Burt praised our accountant and said there are some things that he would like the accountant to do. Burt asked if anyone had any questions.

Jason said that new literature is being developed on the Annual Fund to be distributed to parents for next year.

~ Fundraising committee (liason: Tristan): Annual fund, grants

DISCUSSION: Lauren Ferrante listed the various fund raising events and planning for the rest of the year. Tristan announced a new committee chair and the date of the next committee meeting.

Jason mentioned sponsorship obligations and asked Tristan to coordinate that.

~ Facility: Maintenance and beautification committee (liason: Jason):

DISCUSSION: Jason reported that the grass is growing and said that the committee will start meeting. Jason suggested that some fundraising be directed towards the facilities and the structural inspection. Andres suggested that a parent should step in to serve as facility committee chair.

~ Facility: New facility search committee (liason: Andres): Flyer/info sheet, qualification for funding

DISCUSSION: Andres said that there has been no activity on this given the financial crisis but now that we are past it, he will schedule a meeting before the next board meeting to review the prospective properties presented by parents and sending another email to the community to remind people to keep sending in leads.

~ Initiate communication committee (Jason)

DISCUSSION: Jason discussed a meeting to set up a new communication committee which will organize a communication plan within the committee.

8) Other Board Business

DISCUSSION: Jason will send out a form to set up the Director evaluation by the board. Jason asked if anyone has room to store the school's Christmas parade float.

9) Public comment on non-agenda items -- NONE.

10) Adjournment

MOTION:

Made by: Jason Ferrante
Seconded by: Andres Kerllenevich
Motion: To adjourn the meeting.
Vote: All in favor.
Disposition: Approved.

Jason Ferrante adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Minutes by: Andres Kerllenevich

Date approved: February 16, 2023